PATENT APPLICATION

41.21

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q78752

Yuu ISHII, et al.

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: January 21, 2004 Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: OPTICAL FIBER COUPLER AND OPTICAL FIBER THEREFOR

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

- 1. U.S. Patent No. 4,834,481, issued May 30, 1989.
- 2. U.S. Patent No. 4,556,279, issued December 3, 1985.
- 3. U.S. Patent No. 4,869,570, issued September 26, 1989.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Application to ISHII et al.

on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any

listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 46,835

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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Date: January 21, 2004

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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				Complete if Known			
				Application Number	Not yet assigned		
<u>INFO</u>	RMATION	DISCLOS	SURE	Confirmation Number	Not yet assigned		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			Filing Date	January 21, 2004			
			 _	First Named Inventor	Yuu ISHII		
(use	e as many sheet	ts as necessa	ry)	Art Unit	Not yet assigned		
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q78752		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	-	Document Number				
	Cite No. ¹	Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		US 4,834,481		05-30-1989	Lawson et al.	
		US 4,556,279		12-03-1985	Shaw et al.	
		US 4,869,570		09-26-1989	Yokohama et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Cite Initials* No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	m 14 6	
	No.1	Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
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		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.